

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Diesel Spill on the Ohio River

GCWW Takes Precautions to Ensure Water Safety

Cincinnati, OH - Just after midnight Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW) received notification from Duke Energy of a diesel fuel spill of several thousand gallons into the Ohio River approximately 6-7 hours upstream of the Cincinnati area. As a precautionary measure, GCWW immediately shut down the Ohio River intakes to ensure water safety. GCWW water quality scientists are continuously monitoring the Ohio River, in conjunction with the Northern Kentucky Water District, in order to keep the water supply safe and protect the public health.

While the intakes are closed, GCWW will continue to take samples along the Ohio River to ensure there are no threats to the water supply.

GCWW has adequate capacity to continue operating while the intakes are down. The intakes will remain closed as long as possible to allow the spill to pass. In the very unlikely chance that intakes need to be opened before the spill is completely passed by, GCWW has the ability to utilize powdered activated carbon (PAC) and the granular activated carbon (GAC) which was designed as an additional safety measure to handle instances such as this.

GCWW is working with the Ohio EPA, Duke Energy, and the Coast Guard to assess the situation and provide updates as new information becomes available.

GCWW serves more than 1.1 million people in most of Hamilton County and parts of Butler, Warren and Clermont counties in Ohio and Boone County in Northern Kentucky including the City of Florence. On average, the utility produces about 133 million gallons of water a day and can treat up to 280 million gallons daily. It draws most of its source water from the Ohio River.

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